



Patent  
Attorney Docket No. 4351

UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

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Group Art Unit 1732

Serial No.: 09/932,047

Filed: August 17, 2001

For: PLASMA FILM-FORMING APPARATUS  
AND CLEANING METHOD FOR THE SAME )

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**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT**

Assistant Commissioner for Patents

Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

NOT CERTAIN THAT THIS CORRESPONDENCE IS  
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Sept 27, 2001  
CAROTHERS AND CAROTHERS

In accordance with Rules 56, 97 and 98 of the Rules of Practice in Patent Cases,  
this Information Disclosure Statement provides citations relating to the captioned application.  
Applicant hereby requests the Examiner to review and make an independent evaluation of each  
listed citation.

There are 1 U.S. Patent citation, 2 Japanese Patent Opening Gazette publications,  
and 1 European Patent publication, which are listed on the attached PTO-1449 Form and copies  
of all citations listed are enclosed.

Japanese Patent Opening Gazette No. 69504/1997 corresponds to European Patent Application Publication EPO 697467A1, and Japanese Patent Opening Gazette No. 149989/1998 corresponds to U.S. Patent No. 5,788,778.

In addition to the accompanying citations, Applicant, and/or the undersigned attorney may have seen or considered other information relating to the subject invention; however, it is their best present recollection and judgement that they have not seen or considered any such other information which is material to the examination and/or patentability of the captioned application.

This Information Disclosure Statement is being filed solely for the purpose of compliance with the above-identified rules and is not intended to be a substitute for either an independent evaluation of the cited information by the Examiner or an independent search by the Examiner and no representation of any nature is made or intended by this statement.

Respectfully submitted,

CAROTHERS AND CAROTHERS

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read 'Floyd B. Carothers', is written over a horizontal line.

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